

CLAIMS

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1. A method for producing a food product containing conjugated linoleic acid esters comprising:

a) providing:

i) conjugated linoleic acid esters, wherein said esters are produced by treating linoleic acid esters with an alcoholate catalyst; and

ii) a foodstuff; and

b) combining said foodstuff with said conjugated linoleic acid esters to produce a food product.

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2. The method of Claim 1, wherein said linoleic acid esters are derived from oils selected from the group consisting of safflower, sunflower, and corn oil.

3. The method of Claim 1, wherein said alcoholate catalyst is selected from the group consisting of sodium methylate and potassium methylate.

4. The method of Claim 1, further comprising providing an antioxidant and combining said antioxidant with said conjugated linoleic acid esters and said foodstuff in step (c) to produce said food product.

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5. The method of Claim 1, wherein said antioxidant is selected from the group consisting of α -tocopherol, β -tocopherol, lecithin, ascorbylpalmitate, and BHT.

6. The food product produced according to the method of Claim 1.

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7. A method for producing a food product containing conjugated linoleic acid esters comprising:

a) providing:

i) conjugated linoleic acid, wherein said conjugated linoleic acid is derived from conjugated linoleic acid esters produced by treating linoleic acid esters with an alcoholate catalyst; and

ii) a foodstuff; and

b) combining said foodstuff with said conjugated linoleic acid to produce a food product.

8. The method of Claim 7, wherein said linoleic acid esters are derived from oils selected from the group consisting of safflower, sunflower, and corn oil.

9. The method of Claim 7, wherein said alcoholate catalyst is selected from the group consisting of sodium methylate and potassium methylate.

10. The method of Claim 7, further comprising providing an antioxidant and combining said antioxidant with said conjugated linoleic acid and said foodstuff in step (c) to produce said food product.

11. The method of Claim 7, wherein said antioxidant is selected from the group consisting of α -tocopherol, β -tocopherol, lecithin, ascorbylpalmitate, and BHT.

12. The food product produced according to the method of Claim 7.

13. A method for producing a food product containing conjugated linoleic acid triglycerides comprising:

a) providing:

i) triglycerides containing conjugated linoleic acid moieties, wherein said conjugated linoleic acid moieties are derived from conjugated linoleic acid esters produced by treating linoleic acid esters with an alcoholate catalyst; and

ii) a foodstuff; and

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b) combining said foodstuff with said triglycerides containing conjugated linoleic acid moieties to produce a food product.

14. The method of Claim 13, wherein said linoleic acid esters are derived from oils selected from the group consisting of safflower, sunflower, and corn oil.

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15. The method of Claim 13, wherein said alcoholate catalyst is selected from the group consisting of sodium methylate and potassium methylate.

10 16. The method of Claim 13, further comprising providing an antioxidant and combining said antioxidant with said triglycerides and said foodstuff in step (c) to produce said food product.

17. The method of Claim 13, wherein said antioxidant is selected from the group consisting of α -tocopherol, β -tocopherol, lecithin, ascorbylpalmitate, and BHT.

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18. The food product produced according to the method of Claim 13.

19. A method for producing a food product comprising:

a) providing:

i) linoleic acid esters;

ii) an alcoholate catalyst; and

iii) a foodstuff;

b) producing a conjugated linoleic acid esters by treating said oil containing conjugated linoleic acid with said alcoholate catalyst; and

c) combining said conjugated linoleic acid esters with said foodstuff to produce a food product.

20. The method of Claim 19, wherein said linoleic acid esters are derived from oils selected from the group consisting of safflower, sunflower, and corn oil.

21. The method of Claim 19, wherein said alcoholate catalyst is selected from sodium methyllate and potassium methyllate.

22. The method of Claim 19, further comprising providing an antioxidant and combining said antioxidant with said conjugated linoleic acid esters and said foodstuff in step (c) to produce said food product.

23. The method of Claim 19, wherein said antioxidant is selected from the group consisting of α -tocopherol, β -tocopherol, lecithin, ascorbylpalmitate, and BHT.

24. The food product produced according to the method of Claim 19.

25. A food product comprising a conjugated linoleic acid moiety and an alcohol.

26. The food product of Claim 25, wherein said alcohol is ethyl alcohol.

27. The food product of Claim 25, wherein said alcohol is present in a concentration of about less than 10 ppm.

28. The food product of Claim 25, wherein said conjugated linoleic acid moiety is an ester of conjugated linoleic acid.

29. The food product of Claim 25, wherein said conjugated linoleic acid moiety is a free fatty acid.

30. The food product of Claim 25, wherein said conjugated linoleic acid moiety is a triglyceride.